

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-26 (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) A method for the detection *in vitro* of the presence of a given, predefined pathological condition in a human mammalian subject, said method comprising:

- (i) providing a sample of blood cells from the subject, wherein said blood cells comprise lymphocytes, macrophages, monocytes or dendritic cells,
- (ii) preparing nucleic acid molecules from the sample, and
- (iii) obtaining a hybridization profile by hybridizing all or part of the nucleic acid molecules so prepared with at least one nucleic acid library ~~in order to obtain a hybridization profile, the nucleic acid library comprising a plurality of nucleic acid molecules specific for differentially spliced ribonucleic acid molecules (RNAs) expressed gene products present in mammalian~~ blood cells from human subjects having the given, predefined pathological condition, wherein expression of the differentially spliced RNAs is characteristic of the given, predefined pathological condition the same species as said subject, and wherein said blood cells ~~from human subjects having the given, predefined pathological condition~~ comprise lymphocytes, macrophages, monocytes, or dendritic cells ~~exposed to or experiencing a pathological condition, the hybridization profile indicating the presence of said given, predefined pathological condition in said subject.~~

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) The method of according to claim 27, wherein said at least one library is deposited on a support.

30. (Currently Amended) The method of according to claim 27, wherein the nucleic acid molecules prepared from the sample are total or messenger RNA or complementary deoxyribonucleic acid (cDNA) eDNA derived therefrom.

31. (Currently Amended) The method of according to claim 30, wherein the nucleic acid molecules prepared from the sample are amplified.

32. (Currently Amended) The method of according to claim 27, wherein the nucleic acid molecules are labeled.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of according to claim 27, for the detection *in vitro* of ~~wherein the method further comprises determining the stage of progression of, or the site of, said given, predefined~~ pathological condition in said subject.

34-43 (Cancelled)

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein said support is a membrane, a glass plate, or a biochip.

45. (Cancelled)

46. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the pathological condition affects tissues that are distinct from said blood cells.